Review of Laws relating to Women

†*10. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which the last review of the laws relating to women were carried out; and

(b) the details of the laws covered under this review alongwith the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) Reveiw of laws concerning or impacting women is a continuous process and necessary amendments in such laws are carried out as and when the need arises. Some of the Acts amended in the last five years as a result of such review are:

(1) Indian Succession Act, 1925

(2) The Medical termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971

(3) The Indian Divorce Act, 1869

(4) The Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (section relevant to Maintenance)

(5) The Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation & Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1994

(6) The Indian Evidence Act, 1872

(7) The Marriage Laws (Amendment) Act, 2001

Further, Bills for amending the following Acts have been introduced in the Parliament:—

(1) Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929

(2) Hindu Succession Act, 1956

Fast Track Courts

*11. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government have decided to run 1560 Fast Track Courts for the next five years;

(b) whether the Fast Track Courts would continue to function under the present arrangement and would entail an outgo of Rs. 509 crore over five years beginning from April 1, 2005; and

(c) if so, to what extent these Fast Track Courts have been helpful in reducing the burden of long pending cases in the High Courts?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Fast Track Courts are functioning at the subordinate judiciary level to dispose of long pending cases. The Fast Track Courts have so far disposed of 7.94 lakh cases out of 15.28 lakh cases transferred to them.

Child Education

*12. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to take over the responsibility of education to all the children of age group six to fourteen years irrespective of the financial capability of their parents;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the manner in which hundred per cent education would become possible?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c) Provision of Free and Compulsory Education to children of 6-14 years is a Constitutional mandate. Under the Centrally sponsored scheme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan which aims to achieve universal retention at the elementary stage by the year 2010, Central Government gives assistance to States, *inter alia*, for provision of free textbooks to all girls and SC/ST boys. Under this scheme, Education Guarantee Scheme and Alternative and Innovative Education Centres are also run for children in remote areas and those who cannot attend regular schools, and certain other incentives like free uniform to girls can also be provided in educationally backward blocks. In addition, Central Assistance